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FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION					

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INFORMAL DOCKET NO. 1954(I)

TAYLORS RESOURCES INC (USA) d/b/a BRIDGEWATER LANDING INC (USA)

v.

MOL (AMERICA), INC.

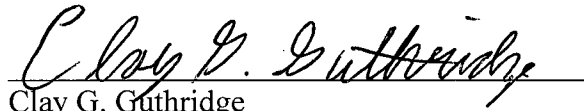
ORDER GRANTING IN PART MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

On June 17, 2016, the Secretary of the Federal Maritime Commission issued a Notice of Filing of Small Claims Complaint and Assignment noting that claimant Bridgewater Landing Inc. (Bridgewater) commenced this proceeding against respondent MOL Shipping Lines (MOL). The Secretary assigned the proceeding to the Chief Administrative Law Judge to designate a Small Claims Officer to handle the proceeding under the informal procedures set forth at Subpart S of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. 46 C.F.R. §§ 502.301 – 502.305. A Small Claims Officer has not yet been assigned to the proceeding.

On July 6, 2016, an associate counsel for MOL sent an email to judges@fmc.gov, the email address for the Commission's Office of Administrative Law Judges, noting that MOL's response to the complaint is due on July 12, 2016, and requesting "an extension of time to respond to the Complaint up to and including August 12, 2016, so that we may attempt to mediate this matter before the FMC's Office of Consumer Affairs & Dispute Resolution Services [CADRS]." (Email dated July 6, 2016, from Grace Hae Woen Bae, Associate Counsel, Law & Insurance, to Small Claims Officer.) On July 8, 2016, an official of Bridgewater responded by email stating: "We formally request this extension be denied, as MOL America has had ample opportunity to respond to the complaint." (Email dated July 8, 2016, from John Herbst, Taylors Resources/Bridgewater Landing, to Small Claims Officer.)

"The Commission has consistently adhered to a policy of 'encourag[ing] settlements and engag[ing] in every presumption which favors a finding that they are fair, correct, and valid.'" *Inlet Fish Producers, Inc. v. Sea-Land Serv., Inc.*, 29 S.R.R. 975, 978 (ALJ 2002) (*quoting Old Ben Coal*

Co. v. Sea-Land Serv., Inc., 18 S.R.R. 1085, 1091 (ALJ 1978). *See also* 46 C.F.R. § 502.91. The parties should have a good idea within fifteen days whether settlement discussions facilitated by CADRS are likely to result in a settlement. Therefore, MOL's motion is granted in part. The time for MOL to answer or otherwise respond to the complaint is extended to July 27, 2016. If it appears that settlement discussions may be fruitful, this deadline may be extended on joint motion of the parties.


Clay G. Guthridge
Chief Administrative Law Judge